

PATENT

A circular stamp from the Office of Intellectual Property (OIPE). The text "OIPE" is at the top, "MAR 09 2004" is in the center, and "PATENT & TRADEMARK" is at the bottom.

—

•

•

•

•

:

•

2

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
2011 South Clark Place
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

In response to the Office Action dated September 10, 2003, the period for response having been extended by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 19 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 24 of this paper.